

Today's News - Tuesday, July 14, 2009

- We lose a pioneer of British Modernism.
- Musgrave on the need for a globally-recognized unit of "green": "Has concern around greenwashing caused a backlash against items that are legitimately sustainable in their design?"
- Demand for green buildings in Miami are keeping some architects busy even during the construction downturn.
- Robert Adam on why the Chelsea Barracks brouhaha "could be the watershed for the new era" in "traditional urbanism...the only new thing in architecture that can really be called a movement."
- An in-depth look at what's happened to big development dreams in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, leaving it "New York's version of the collapsing exurban 'boomburbs' in Florida and Arizona" (it might not be such a bad thing in the long run).
- Kamin monitors the progress (or lack thereof) of Chicago Children's Museum's still-controversial move to Grant Park.
- "Arborcide" (and a concrete bench that "has all the aesthetic appeal of an off-ramp on I-95") at Lincoln Center has critics riled.
- Nouvel to lead transformation of Renault's flagship factory on an island in Paris into an "island for all the arts."
- Move over High Line and Promenade Plantée - make room for the rebirth of Morristown, Tennessee's 1968 Skywalk.
- Wilkinson Eyre win Southampton's Titanic museum gig.
- Istanbul's shiny new mosque - designed by women.
- For those who "don't know wrong from Wright," the San Diego Architectural Foundation strives to define what Modern (with a capital "M") architecture is.
- Why selling Wright's Ennis House could be its salvation (some still think it's wrong).
- GM's landmark Argonaut Building gets a second shot as "one of Detroit's little-noted green shoots."
- Call for entries: Reurbia: a design competition dedicated to re-envisioning the suburbs.
- Two we couldn't resist: a compilation of the fallout following a Gehry "smackdown"; and a video of Hadid's billowing Bach pavilion in Manchester, and why she "couldn't resist the idea of creating the perfect 'liquid space'" for his music.
- Happy Bastille Day!

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Obituary: Henry Thomas Cadbury-Brown, 96, architect of the Royal College of Art and pioneer of British modernism [[slide show](#), [links](#)]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Why We Need a Globally-Recognized Unit of "Green": Has concern around greenwashing caused a backlash against items that are legitimately sustainable in their design? By Ken Musgrave- Fast Company

Demand on the rise for green buildings: Increasing demand for energy efficient, environmentally friendly buildings is bringing business to architects during the construction downturn. -- Zyscovich Architects; FormGroup- Miami Herald

Chelsea changed everything: ...traditional urbanism has become the only new thing in architecture that can really be called a movement...glaringly obvious idea that the past might actually have some pretty good lessons for the future...the way it's going is that good places matter more than big names, and Chelsea Barracks, with all its publicity, could be the watershed for the new era. By Robert Adam -- Rogers Stirk Harbour-Building (UK)

The Billyburg Bust: A [Brooklyn] working-class neighborhood became a bohemian theme park, which in turn became a fantasyland for luxury-condo developers. Now, littered with half-built shells of a vanished boom, Williamsburg is looking like something else entirely: Miami. - New York Magazine

Is the Chicago Children's Museum's move to Grant Park in trouble? ...here's the museum's knock-down response... By Blair Kamin -- Krueck & Sexton [[image](#), [links](#)]- Chicago Tribune

Dead From Lincoln Center? Arborcide Angers Critics: 30 young trees...are bordered by a hideous concrete bench that has all the aesthetic appeal of an off-ramp on I-95...Damrosch Park...may be in for an equally severe makeover..."it's alarming how much postwar landscaping is at risk...Why couldn't there be a reinterpretation of Kiley's planting?" Why not indeed? -- Diller Scofidio + Renfro; FXFowle; Eero Saarinen; Dan Kiley; Ken Smith; James Urban [[slide show](#)]- Bloomberg News

Life after Renault: Ile Seguin to become Paris culture hub: The former home of Renault's flagship factory...is to be revived and recreated as an "island for all the arts" in which the grim post-industrial landscape will be replaced by green technology and solar power. -- Jean Nouvel- Guardian (UK)

The High Line of Hamblen County: New York and Paris will soon be joined by Morristown, Tennessee as cities that have turned abandoned, elevated bits of their aging infrastructure into pleasant walkways...1968 Skywalk...The sheer audacity of the concrete promenade -- "built to Interstate quality"...should rank it with the better-known works of 1960s utopian planning. [[images](#)]- The Architect's Newspaper

Designers unveiled for Southampton's Titanic museum: ...to feature a massive climb-aboard replica of the doomed liner. -- Wilkinson Eyre- Southern Daily Echo (UK)

Women take lead in building mosque in Turkey: There is a shiny addition among the Ottoman mosques and palaces that make up Istanbul's stunning skyline: the metallic, mirrored dome of the new Sakirin Mosque... -- Zeynep Fadilliglu [[slide show](#), [video](#)]- CNN International

Panel strives to get a handle on Modern architecture: ... when it comes to modernist architecture, developers, regulators, residents, even some architects, don't know wrong from Wright. In response...the San Diego Architectural Foundation...spent the last two years debating what is Modern (with a capital "M") architecture, and recently completed a 50-page survey of the subject with examples here and elsewhere. - San Diego Union-Tribune

Ennis Anyone? Despite preservationist outcry, sale of Frank Lloyd Wright Ennis House could be its salvation...according to a number of preservation groups involved...there was simply no choice, despite their own misgivings. Preserving the house came first. [images]- [The Architect's Newspaper](#)

General Motors design landmark gets second life - as a school: The Argonaut Building in Detroit was once the center of GM design. It is being renovated to become College for Creative Studies...the project is one of Detroit's little-noted green shoots. - [Albert Kahn \(1936\)](#); [Albert Kahn Associates](#); [Luce et Studio](#) [images]- [AutoWeek.com](#)

Call for entries: Reurbia: a design competition dedicated to re-envisioning the suburbs; deadline: August 1 - [Inhabitat.com](#) / [Dwell](#)

Smackdown: Frank Gehry Smackdown: Iconic Architecture vs. Public Space -- Fred Kent/Project for Public Spaces [links]- [Curbed Los Angeles](#)

Video: Zaha Hadid's billowing Bach pavilion in Manchester: Despite having failed to learn the piano as a child, Hadid explains why she and her firm couldn't resist the idea of creating the perfect 'liquid space' to listen to JS Bach- [Guardian \(UK\)](#)

Market Research Strategies in Uncertain Times #2: Finding Leads that one can act on right away is a difficult task, especially during tough economic times, but these strategies can help. By [Frances Gretes](#) - [ArchNewsNow](#)



-- [Bernard Tschumi Architects](#): New Acropolis Museum, Athens, Greece
-- Competition winner: [Office for Metropolitan Architecture \(OMA\)/Urbanus](#): Shenzhen Creative Center, Crystal Island, Shenzhen, China

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